donations to Narmada Bachao Andolan

1719. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that enron donated Rs.10 Lakhs to Narmada Bachao Andolan, a voluntay organisation;

(b) whether the donation was made as per established procedure laid down by Government; and

(c) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Central Government against NBA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. As per records with the concerned authorities, there is no information regarding donation of Rs.10 Lakhs to Narmada Bachao Andolan by Enron.

(b) and (c) in view of the above, the question does not arise.

Telephone subscribers under income tax net

1720. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expansion of telephone network, particularly to the villages is being hampered because of the fear that getting a telephone would draw them to income tax net.

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take telephone connections out of the list of items the ownership of which makes filing income tax returns compulsory; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No data or specific information is available in this regard. The requirement of filing an income tax return by a person subscribing to a telephone is applicable only in urban areas as listed in the Census of 1991.

(b) and (c) In view of above, does not arise.